IN THE CLAIMS

5   1. A reconfigurable network-equipment power-management
system, comprising:

a power-controller device having a serial interface
for communicating with a user, and a plurality of power-
control ports that are able to interrupt operating power to a
10   corresponding plurality of co-located computer data network
appliances;

a user configuration file for affecting said
plurality of power-control ports;

a memory disposed in the power-controller device
15   and providing for storage of the user configuration file; and

a file transfer mechanism for importing and
exporting the user configuration file to said user via said
serial interface.

20   2. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

a computer data network interfaced to support the
file transfer mechanism and communication with a user at a
remote location.

25   3. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

a command mechanism for recognizing a user command
to upload the user configuration file from the memory to a
destination.

30   4. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

a command mechanism for recognizing a user command
to download a substitute user configuration file to the
memory from a source.

5. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

a transfer mechanism for checking the integrity of a substitute user configuration file downloaded to the memory, and for rejecting a corrupted file transfer.

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6. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

a transfer mechanism for checking the integrity of a substitute user configuration file downloaded to the memory, and for adopting for use an acceptable file transfer.

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7. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

an editor for constructing a substitute user configuration file for downloading to the memory.

15   8. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

an editor for modifying said user configuration file into a substitute user configuration file for downloading to the memory and eventual use to control said plurality of power-control ports.

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9. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

a computer data network interfaced to support the file transfer mechanism and communication with a user at a remote location;

25   a command mechanism for recognizing a first user command to upload the user configuration file from the memory to a destination, and for recognizing a second user command to download a substitute user configuration file to the memory from a source;

30   a transfer mechanism for checking the integrity of said substitute user configuration file downloaded to the memory, and for rejecting a corrupted file transfer, and further for checking the integrity of said substitute user configuration file downloaded to the memory, and for adopting

35   for use an acceptable file transfer; and

an editor for modifying said user configuration file into a substitute user configuration file for downloading to the memory and eventual use to control said plurality of power-control ports.

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10. A method for managing user configuration data in a reconfigurable network-equipment power-management system, the method comprising the steps of:

operating a plurality of power-control ports such 10 that they are dependent on a user configuration file;

uploading a copy of said user configuration file over a data communication channel; and

downloading a substitute user configuration file over said data communication channel to replace said user 15 configuration file.

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of:

checking the integrity of said user configuration 20 file and aborting if corrupted.

12. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of:

checking the integrity of said user configuration 25 file and adopting it for use if not corrupted.